

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A deep fat fryer comprising:

a pan for holding liquid fat for frying food, the pan having a brim extending along its topmost end;

a heater for heating fat in the pan;

a housing shielding the pan from the environment;

an upright exterior wall surface facing away from the pan ; and

a collar extending closely along the brim of the pan; characterized in that the collar is detachable and includes a flange projecting outwardly from the brim.

2. (original) A fryer according to claim 1, wherein the flange projects downwardly along at least a portion of said wall surface.

3. (original) A fryer according to claim 2, wherein a free edge of the flange abuts or extends closely along said wall surface.

4. (original) A fryer according to claim 3, wherein said wall surface has a rim having an upwardly facing surface extending

around said housing, said free edge of said flange abutting or extending closely along said rim.

5. (currently amended) A fryer according to ~~any one of the~~  
~~claims 2-4~~claim 2, wherein said portion of said wall surface along  
which said flange extends is inwardly recessed relative to a  
portion of said wall surface located under said recessed wall  
portion.

6. (original) A fryer according to claim 1, wherein said flange  
projects away from said wall surface, a free edge of said flange  
being radially and outwardly spaced from said wall surface.

7. (original) A fryer according to claim 6, wherein said flange  
extends upwardly.

8. (currently amended) A fryer according to ~~any one of the~~  
~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the flange has an anti-adhesive  
outer surface.

9. (currently amended) A fryer according to ~~any one of the~~  
~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the collar  
is of a flexible material.

10. (currently amended) A fryer according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein at least said flange is of fat absorbing material.

11. (currently amended) A fryer according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein at least said flange is of biodegradable material.

12. (currently amended) A collar for mounting in a position extending along a brim of a liquid fat holding pan of a fryer according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, the brim extending along a topmost end of the pan, the fryer further comprising a housing shielding the pan from the environment, and an upright exterior wall surface facing away from the pan; the collar having at least one portion for mounting closely along said brim; the collar including a flange projecting outwardly from the portion for mounting closely along said brim.